



Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.104
U.S. Application No. 10/826,308

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph no. 0010 with the following amended paragraph:

Please change paragraph [0010] as follows:

[Optical Glass and Method of Manufacturing Same]

To achieve the above-stated objects, the present inventors conducted various tests, resulting in the discovery that the incorporation of Bi_2O_3 and WO_3 into a P_2O_5 - Nb_2O_5 - TiO_2 - Li_2O - Na_2O -based glass permitted the development of a high refractive index, high dispersion optical glass for precision press molding having a transition temperature (T_g) of less than or equal to 530°C , a sag temperature (T_s) of less than or equal to 560°C , a high refractive index (n_d) of greater than or equal to 1.75, a low Abbé number (v_d) of less than or equal to 30, good stability, and good mass production properties; the present invention was devised on that basis. A first aspect (glass (1) hereinafter) and a second aspect (glass (2) hereinafter) of the optical glass of the present invention will be described. Three variations of glass (1) denoted as glasses (1-1) to (1-3) (~~corresponding to claims 1 to 3~~) will be described, and three variations of glass (2) denoted as glasses (2-1) to (2-3) (~~corresponding to claims 4 to 6~~) will be described.

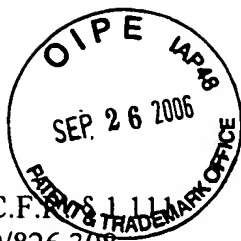
Please change paragraph [0045] as follows:

[Precision press molding preform and method of manufacturing the same]

The precision press molding preform (~~corresponding to claims 9 to 11~~) and method of manufacturing the same of the present invention will be described next. The term “precision press molding preform” means a molded member of glass equal in weight to the press-molded article. The preform is molded to a suitable shape based on the shape of the press-molded article; examples of such shapes are spherical and spheroidal. The preform is heated to a viscosity permitting press molding and supplied to press molding.

Please change paragraph [0081] as follows:

The preform obtained in Embodiment 41 was precision press molded in the pressing mold shown in Fig. 1 to obtain an aspherical lens. Specifically, the preform 4 was positioned between a lower mold 2 and an upper mold 1 and a guide mold 3, constituting the pressing mold, the pressing



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mold being positioned on a support base 10 provided on a support rod 9. Then, the interior of a quartz tube 11 was backfilled with a nitrogen atmosphere, and power was supplied to a heater 12 to heat the interior of quartz tube 11. The temperature on the interior of the pressing mold was adjusted to a temperature at which the glass being molded exhibited a viscosity of from 10^8 to 10^{10} dPa·sec. The temperature within the mold is controlled by a thermocouple 14 inserted into the lower mold 2. While maintaining this temperature, a pressing rod 13 was lowered to press down upon upper mold 1, thereby pressing the preform 4 that had been positioned within the pressing mold. The pressure applied was 8 MPa and the pressing time was 30 seconds. Following pressing, the pressure was removed and the press-molded glass article was gradually cooled to a temperature at which the glass exhibited a viscosity of greater than or equal to 10^{12} dPa·sec with lower mold 2 and upper mold 1 still in contact. The press-molded glass article was then cooled to room temperature and removed from the pressing mold, yielding an aspherical lens. The aspherical lens obtained had extremely high surface precision.